

## NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE: N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Irving place.—Italian Opera—NORRA.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway.—EDITH.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.—First Old English Gentlemen.—AMERICANS IN PARIS.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.—East Lynne.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE, Broadway.—JESSIE McLAKE.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, BOWERY.—SADAK AND KALIBAN.—THE ROYAL FORTUNE.—FOLIO.

POWERY THEATRE, BOWERY.—MAGNET.—IRLAND AS IT IS.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway.—MINNIE WARDEN, CUB. NUT. LIVING HIPPOTAMUS, &amp;c. &amp;c. ALL BONES.—SLEDGE ON THE WALL.—ATTRACTION AND EVENING.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanics' Hall, 472 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN SONGS, BURLESQUES, DANCES, &amp;c.—HOW ARE YOU, GREENBACK?

WOODS' MINSTREL HALL, 514 Broadway.—ETHIOPIAN SONGS, DANCES, &amp;c.—LAND OF FREEDOM.

IRVING HALL, Irving place.—PUBLIC LETTER OF GEN. T. H. LEE AND WIFE.

THE NEW IDEAS, 485 Broadway.—SONGS, BURLESQUES, DANCES, &amp;c.

HOPE CHAPLIN, 72 Broadway.—MAGNET'S HIBERNIAN.—OR. A TOUR IN IRELAND.

AMERICAN THEATRE, No. 444 Broadway.—BALLET, PARTONIER, BURLESQUES, &amp;c.

PARISIAN CABINET OF WONDERS, 503 Broadway.—Open daily from 10 A. M. to 11 P. M.

HOOVER'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—ETHIOPIAN SONGS, DANCES, BURLESQUES, &amp;c.

WASHINGTON HALL, Astoria.—GEO. CHRIST'S MINSTRELS.

New York, Wednesday, April 1, 1863.

## ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE COUNTRY.

Advertisements for the WEEKLY HERALD should be handed in before ten o'clock on Wednesday evening.

## THE SITUATION.

From all the information which reaches our lines at Suffolk and Yorktown it appears evident that the enemy are about evacuating Richmond.

The large guns and machinery are being conveyed to Chattanooga, as though the hazard of the die was to be accepted at that point.

A successful attack on Point Pleasant, Va., was made by the rebels, 700 strong, on Monday. They were subsequently repulsed, however, with a loss of twelve killed and fourteen prisoners.

The news from the Southwest to-day is important. Rebel accounts from the Richmond papers state that General Morgan's guerrillas had a contest at Milton, Tenn., on the 20th inst., in which they drove the Union troops two miles, when they were reinforced, and the battle ceased. General Morgan admits that his loss in officers was very heavy. On the same authority we have the fact that General Forrest captured 800 Union troops at Brentwood on the 20th ult., destroyed a house containing a large quantity of commissary stores, burnt the railroad bridge, tore up the track, and got possession of seventeen loaded wagons.

The intelligence of the retreat of the rebels from Kentucky is confirmed by our latest news from Cincinnati. General Pogram, at last accounts, was south of Stanford, hotly pursued, and is reported to have been compelled to abandon his cattle and train. The rebels are reported advancing on Murfreesboro, Tenn.

An attempt to run by the rebel batteries at Vicksburg was made by the Union rams Lancaster and Switzerland on Wednesday last, without success. According to a despatch, dated at Cairo yesterday, as soon as they came within range the rebels opened a tremendous fire. The Lancaster was struck thirty times. Her entire bow was shot away, causing her to sink immediately. All the crew except two escaped. The Switzerland was disabled by a sixty-four pound ball penetrating the steam drum. She floated down, the batteries still firing and striking her repeatedly, until finally the Albatross ran alongside and towed her to the lower mouth of the canal. While coming up the river the Hartford and Albatross encountered a battery at Grand Gulf more formidable than those at Port Hudson. The Hartford was struck fourteen times, and had three men killed. Both vessels returned the fire vigorously, and both were more or less injured.

The expedition under General Sherman, to the rear of Haines' Bluff, by way of Steele's Bayou and the Sunflower, had returned to Young's Point. There is nothing definite from the Yazoo Pass expedition, under General Ross and General Quimby.

The rebel privateers continue their depredations. The Alabama burned on February 21 the splendid ship Golden Eagle, of New York, bound for Queenstown, Ireland, with guano, and destroyed on the same day the bark Olive Jane, of Boston, bound from Bordeaux to New York, with a rich cargo of wines and fruits. The captain of the British bark Crusoe, who arrived at this port yesterday from St. Thomas March 17, reports that the English screw steamer Pet, from England, and Arius, which had previously landed a cargo of cotton in Porto Rico from Mobile, both sailed on the 16th for a port in the South. The British frigate Phaeton sailed in company with them as a convoy.

## THE LEGISLATURE.

In the State Senate yesterday a number of bills were reported from the Gridding Committee; but the majority of them are not of general interest. The bill providing for the appointment of five commissioners to adjudicate certain cases on the Court of Appeals calendar was passed. A favorable report was made on the bill extending the term of office of our city heads of departments to four years. This bill has already passed the Assembly. A bill was introduced to authorize the formation of banking associations under the Banking law of the late Congress. A message was received from Governor Seymour, informing the Senate that there would be due to-day the sum of \$392,064 for quarterly interest on the State debt, and stating that it was for the Legislature to decide whether this money should be paid in coin or United States notes. The Governor urges in his messages that it should be paid in coin. The Senate immediately took up the question, and after considerable debate, decided, by a vote of twenty to three, to pay only the foreign creditors in specie.

In the Assembly the bill amending the Metropolitan Police act was reported from committee. It provides for four commissioners, and two superintendents for this city and one for Brooklyn, but

is not calculated, apparently, to effect any material change in the working of our police system. It was ordered to be printed. The bill prohibiting county treasurers using public moneys for private purposes was passed. The Governor's message in reference to the payment of the quarterly instalment of the State interest due to-day was received, and the course decided upon was very different from that of the Senate. The Assembly voted to pay the interest in coin to all holders except banks and incorporated associations. A letter from the officers of some thirty of the banks of this city, urging on the Legislature this course, had previously been received and discussed in the Assembly. It was agreed that a final vote on the bill allowing soldiers in the army to vote at our elections should be taken to-day.

## EUROPEAN NEWS.

Our European advices by the Hansa and City of Washington, at this port, are dated to the 19th of March, and are of an important character.

The ratification of the rebel government having been received, the Confederate seven per cent cotton loan of £3,000,000 was to be brought out on Thursday, March 19, by Messrs. Erlanger, at Paris and Frankfurt; J. H. Schroder, in London and Amsterdam, and Fraser &amp; Trenholm, at Liverpool. The cotton hypothecated as security has to be delivered to the holder of each bond, at his option, at the rate of 5½¢ per lb., free of expense, at the Southern shipping ports, either immediately or within six months after the ratification of peace. The price at which the bonds are to be issued is 90, with dividends in sterling, and sinking fund for redemption at par in twenty years. Some of the bonds had been offered in Havre before the Hansa sailed.

The London Post, Lord Palmerston's organ, makes a loud call for a united French and English intervention in America with the object of inducing peace, and thus securing cotton and employment for the cotton operatives of both countries.

The privateer Alabama had destroyed two more American vessels, the Golden Eagle, of New York, and the Olive Jane, of Boston, both valuable ships and cargoes. Capt. Semmes, of the Alabama, had put two of his petty officers on board an English ship—which landed them at Davenport—their time of service under the Confederate flag having expired and they having asked a discharge.

The English shipbuilders have launched two more fast steamers for the rebel privateer service. The Sumter (now called the Gibraltar), whose history is familiar to every one, was again ready for sea in England.

By the City of Washington we learn that the Confederate loan had been bought in London and Paris. It was quite a "fancy" stock in Paris, and was quoted at a premium in London on the 18th and 19th of March. The prospects—without a name—of a new Confederate States Bank, to be established in England, with a large capital, was extensively circulated in London.

A prize fight has been arranged between Heenan and King.

Consols rated in London on the 19th of March in the afternoon, at 92½ a 92½ for money, and 92½ a 92½ for the account. In the Liverpool cotton market the sales for two days, the 16th and 17th of March, amounted to 25,000 bales, including 15,000 bales to speculators and exporters, the market closing buoyant and ½¢ higher for American and Surat, and 1d. for other descriptions. Provisions were dull and rather downward. Breadstuffs were quiet but steady, and tending upward.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

The British steamship Isis, from Liverpool, arrived at this port yesterday, has on freight 2,500 bales of cotton.

March went out yesterday amid snow, rain, hail and the most unpleasant weather generally which we have had for a long period. The first of April—all fool's day—promises to have a bad commencement.

A convention of the managers of the principal lines of railroad in the United States will be held at the St. Nicholas Hotel to-day, when the time table and freight tariff for the spring months will be under consideration.

At the meeting of the Supervisors yesterday, a communication was received from the Comptroller, recommending the appropriation of \$11,025 to pay outstanding claims of the Commissioners of Records. The appropriation was made. The Mayor's veto of the resolution authorizing application to the Legislature for the passage of an act to record "all bonds, stock and stocks, of all companies and individuals in this county." An application from the Coroners for authority to advertise the descriptions of all unknown deceased persons found in the city was referred.

Coroner Nauman was called upon to hold an ante-mortem examination yesterday, in the case of Mary Teston, residing at No. 111 Third street, who was almost beaten to death by her husband. The accused is also charged with having placed his child upon a red hot stove, injuring the little one so seriously that it is not expected to recover.

The following fast days will be observed during the present month:—

Massachusetts.....Thursday, April 2.

Connecticut.....Friday, April 9.

Vermont.....Thursday, April 9.

New Hampshire.....Thursday, April 9.

Maine.....Thursday, April 16.

National.....Thursday, April 30.

Miss Anna E. Dickinson is one of the republican stump speakers in Connecticut. Her appointments this week include Waterbury, Bristol and Middletown. At the former place she is pitted against Hon. James Brooks, of this city.

The Supreme Court of Wisconsin has declared the act of the Legislature enabling soldiers to vote constitutional.

According to the City Inspector's report, there were 445 deaths in this city during the past week—an increase of 10 as compared with the mortality of the week previous, and 39 more than occurred during the corresponding week last year. The recapitulation table gives 2 deaths of alcoholism, 78 of diseases of the brain and nerves, 6 of the generative organs, 20 of the heart and blood vessels, 164 of the lungs, throat, &amp;c.; 7 of old age, 41 of diseases of the skin and eruptive fevers, 2 premature births, 63 of diseases of the stomach, bowels and other digestive organs; 29 of uncertain seat and general fevers, 13 of diseases of the urinary organs, 18 from violent causes, and 2 unknown. There were 193 natives of the United States, 9 of England, 100 of Ireland, 27 of Germany, and the balance of various foreign countries.

The ice in the Hudson river continues quite firm between Greenbush and Stockport. From Stockport to Hudson it is open, and from Hudson to Poughkeepsie it is more or less obstructed by ice.

The supply of beef cattle was again light, and with an active demand from the butchers and the government agents prices again advanced. The extreme range was from 85¢ to 13c. a 14c. Scarcely any sold below 9½¢, while only a few of the choicest sold at 14c. A whole drove of Kentucky cattle sold at 13c. a 14c., however, while several sold at 11½¢ each, and one brought \$165. The prevailing prices are higher than ever before known. The general selling prices were 10c. a 11½¢, and the average price 10½¢, a 10½¢. Milch cows sold freely at from \$30 to \$60 a \$70. Veals were sold at 4½¢ to 5½¢, a 5½¢. Sheep and lambs were sold at 4½¢ to 5½¢, a 5½¢, closing fed at 5½¢, a 5½¢, and still fed at 6½¢, a 6½¢, of the total receipts were 4,563 beef cattle,

211 cows, 785 veals, 4,353 sheep and lambs and 11,866 swine.

The weather operated to check business yesterday, and Wall street was dull. Stocks and gold were, however, generally higher; the latter sold at 150½ and closed at 150½.

Exchange sold at 163 for bankers' signatures. Money was exceedingly abundant; everybody had money over at the close.

The storm yesterday checked business materially. There was less activity but increased firmness in the market for breadstuffs and provisions. There was more doing in middling cotton, which was quoted up to 70c. a 70c.

The sales of groceries were light, as were likewise the reported transactions in most other commodities, prices of which, however, were essentially unaltered. The freight engagements were quite light without any remarkable changes in rates.

## The Late Important Anglo-Rebel Diplomatic Correspondence.

We published the other day a very curious and interesting letter from Lord Lyons to his government on the question of British mediation in the matter of our Southern rebellion, and some very remarkable letters between James M. Mason, the rebel ambassador at London, and Earl Russell, on the blockade, mediation, intervention and the recognition of the "so-called Confederate States."

The letter of Lord Lyons, written shortly after the suggestive defeat of the republican party in the Northern elections of last October and November, is an effort to mark out the policy of Great Britain according to the views and calculations of the Northern conservatives. Lord Lyons says that "several of the leaders of the democratic party sought interviews with me (in New York) both before and after the arrival of the intelligence of Gen. McClellan's dismissal; that the subject uppermost in their minds was 'foreign mediation between the North and South,' and that 'at the bottom I thought I perceived a desire to put an end to the war, even at the risk of losing the Southern States altogether; but it was plain that it was not thought prudent to avow this desire; and so on to the end of the chapter. The substance of Lord Lyons' discoveries among the democratic leaders who thus enlightened him may be given in a few words. They were ready for peace upon almost any terms of reconciliation or separation, and were somewhat desirous of English mediation in favor of an armistice and a convention, but were afraid of the people; and so Lord Lyons, failing to obtain anything substantial, definite or satisfactory from these democratic leaders, wisely suggests that the true policy of England is to stand off, look on and await the course of events. We presume that in writing a letter to-day on the same subject Lord Lyons would be able to reaffirm this wise conclusion without consulting either democratic or republican leaders. We next come to the earnest and persistent appeals of J. M. Mason, the rebel ambassador at London, to Earl Russell, in behalf of English intervention, mediation and the recognition of the "so-called Confederate States." The excuse of an ineffective blockade and the temptation of unlimited supplies of Southern cotton are presented to England in a very tempting shape, to induce her to intervene against the blockade; but the only answer vouchsafed to this letter is that it has been received. Mason next informs Earl Russell that an offer of mediation from England would be received with high consideration and respect by the Confederate States, to which his lordship substantially answers that an offer of mediation, if it did not offend the one party, would offend the other. Mason next makes out a labored argument in favor of the recognition of the Southern confederacy, and asks for a personal interview with Earl Russell upon the subject. An answer is promised to the letter; but the personal interview is respectfully declined. Mason therefore writes another letter in behalf of recognition, but is answered that his facts do not agree with those of Mr. Seward in regard to the results of the war, and that "in order to be entitled to a place among the independent nations of the earth, a State ought to have not only strength and resources for a time, but ought to afford promise of stability and permanence." The irrepressible Mason next returns to the blockade, and produces another array of legal arguments and Southern custom house reports to show that it is the duty of England to put an end to it; but my Lord Russell replies that he has already argued that question, and says that "the occasional escape of small vessels on dark nights, or under other particular circumstances, from the vigilance of a competent blockading fleet, did not evince that laxity in the belligerent which ensured, according to international law, to the raising of a blockade."

Now, when it is considered that this rebel ambassador Mason was, in his way, the most pompous, consequential and unapproachable public man in the United States, it must be conceded that his submission to these repeated snubbings and rebuffs from the British government establishes a fanatical devotion to the cause of Jeff. Davis which is positively sublime. But as Mason has submitted, and as Davis has entered no belligerent protest against Earl Russell's responses, we presume they will not provoke the "so-called Confederate States" to a war with England. The government of the United States, in the meantime, owes nothing to the British Cabinet for these satisfactory manifestations of neutrality. They are due to a power behind the English Cabinet and aristocracy, and "behind the throne, greater than the throne itself"—the power of England's public opinion, of which such men as John Bright and Richard Cobden are the chosen exponents. It is this power which has dictated these positive assurances of England's neutrality. It was not so in the beginning; but we are now sure it will be so to the end.

## NEW LAURELS FOR THE NAVY.—Our unrivaled navy won new laurels at Port Hudson. Admiral Farragut and his officers have covered themselves with glory. The passage of the terrible batteries above and below Port Hudson takes rank in history with the bombardments of Hilton Head, Fort Henry and Arkansas Post, and the capture of New Orleans. All former wars fall to present a parallel to such exploits. In addition to the brilliantly graphic account which we published yesterday of the fight at Port Hudson, we learn by our news this morning that Admiral Farragut had another and still more tremendous conflict with the rebels at Grand Gulf. We have no doubt that this second battle was quite to the Admiral's taste. Farragut revels in fire. He is a perfect sea salamander. When fighting his way up to New Orleans he constantly slowed his ship in order to give the rebels a chance. While passing through the feu d'enfer—the infernal fire—at Port Hudson—he seemed to be so enamored with the sport in which he was engaged as to be in no hurry. His officers emulated his bravery. The staunch old Mississippi, though fast aground and made the focus for the rebel

cannon, did not surrender, but, having been fought until she was untenable, went up in a blaze of glory. Such deeds as these will live as long as the country exists, and will be gratefully remembered as long as an American treads the earth. All honor to the heroes of our invincible navy.

## THE HERALD CORRESPONDENTS UNDER FIRE.—The great beauty of the HERALD war reports is that our correspondents see what they describe. An ancient poet named Homer has given us a very fair account of the little scrimmage around Troy—not Troy, N. Y. But Homer was, comparatively speaking, a humbug. He never saw what he reported. Like Bull Run Russell at the battle from which he takes his name, Homer drew upon his imagination for the facts. Like the "Little Villain," who ran away at the sight of a phantom Austrian at Solferino, Homer was never anywhere near the conflicts he depicts. Seven cities claimed Homer; but the whole world claims our war reporters. Homer never smelt powder or saw an iron-clad gunboat. Our war correspondents have been under fire. They have no dread of "villainous salt-petre." When writing of the capture of New Orleans, the battle of Pea Ridge, the trial fight of the Montauk, the passage of the Port Hudson batteries, or any of the other events of the war by land or sea, they always take their notes on the spot. Bombs burst above their heads, and cannon balls whistled past their noses and scattered their papers. This gives their letters such vivid, graphic interest. They are original photographs, not second hand copies. Mr. Milton made a very good report of the first great rebellion; but he did it from fancy and old documents. Our correspondents' reports of the second great rebellion put Milton completely into the shade. Homer and Milton did very well for old times; but the present age requires the HERALD's staff.

## IS GEN. ROSECRANS IN DANGER?—According to our latest accounts from Kentucky, the rebel column under Gen. Pogram which had entered that State was falling rapidly back before the Union forces in pursuit. This invasion on the part of the rebels was doubtless intended partly as an expedition for subsistence, and partly as a diversion to draw off a portion of the army of Gen. Rosecrans to the defence of Kentucky; for it appears as if, under the idea that Gen. Rosecrans had been drawn upon to meet this Kentucky movement, the rebel army of Gen. Joe Johnston had faced about and was advancing towards Murfreesboro. Is Gen. Rosecrans in danger? That is the question. He holds the most exposed point, and the most inviting and advantageous to the rebels for a concentration of their forces to break through the tolls of our encircling ananias; for he stands in the way to Nashville and to the tempting army supplies of Kentucky. We dare say that he has made his position at Murfreesboro a very strong one; but, against the chances of being turned on the right or left, his army should be promptly strengthened, so as to enable him to leave his defences and to grapple with the enemy in the open field, if necessary to protect his lines of communication with his base of supplies. We hope the government is fully alive to the importance of the position of Gen. Rosecrans and to the dangers which menace him. We have great confidence in his vigilance, sagacity, skill and bravery, and in his heroic army; but he should not be left to the chances of a collision with overwhelming numbers of the enemy from the Southwest and from Virginia, in addition to the original army of Bragg.

## Theatrical.

SAM. SMITH AT BARNUM'S MUSEUM. Mr. Samuel Smith, advertised as "the principal comedian" of several London theatres, made his debut here at Barnum's Museum on Monday afternoon, in a tremendously psychological drama called "The Shadow on the Wall," in which he is said to have created a great sensation in England. The house was crowded from floor to ceiling with the beauty and fashion of New York, Staten Island, Brooklyn and Connecticut. Mr. Smith being the first "star" who ever shone in the Museum, Mr. Barnum cut down his other performance and the gas, and gave the drama new and really excellent scenery, fresh from the famous brush of Mr. Heide, the artist. After a pleasing introduction—during which the Syro-Arabian gymnasts (male and female) disported every tone in their bodies; the What is it put its fingers to its nose; the Albino Family was shown up; Master Handkerchief drummed; Minnie Warren and Commodore Nutt looked small; and Mr. Barnum improvised—the play began. Mr. Smith, the comedian, appeared in a high pressure melodramatic part, and, attempting to be impressive, became heavy and unintelligible. The drama itself had not the slightest shadow of sense about it. Those of the audience who did not go to sleep during the first scene laughed and ate peanuts while Mr. Smith was making his strongest points. Except in the matter of scenery, the whole affair was a failure. Mr. Smith, we believe, a talented comedian. Let him stick to comedy and try again. "The Shadow on the Wall" is not the place for him nor for Barnum's audience; and either the play must have been very much altered, or London must be a very queer place, for it never made any sensation there.

## MATILDA HERON AT NIBLO'S.

Matilda Heron made her centre at Niblo's Garden on Monday evening in her new play, "Edith," adapted from Mrs. Woolf's novel, "East Lynne." The house was very crowded and the audience most enthusiastic. The play we have already noticed at length, on the occasion of its first presentation at this theatre three months ago. Since then it has been considerably improved, and now works more smoothly and plays more rapidly and sharply. The acting last evening was noticeably good. Matilda Heron's Edith and Mr. Sewell's Sir Mortimer Rasthion have been previously praised. Mr. George Jordan and Miss Mary Wells were perfectly at home in their parts. Mr. Langford read the part of Alfred Morleigh nicely. Mrs. Morleigh was a capital Richard. The scenery, by Selwyn, is exquisitely painted. Miss Heron's dresses were new and elegant, and she wore a beautiful bouquet presented to her by Mrs. Lincoln upon her departure from Washington last week. "Edith" will be repeated every evening.

## MR. AND MRS. TON TRUMP AT IRVING HALL.

General Tom Trump and his little wife give three levees a day at Irving Hall this week. They wear their marriage costumes, sing songs, dance dances, and conduct their business solely on their own account. Not to see them is to be awfully indifferent to the wonders of nature.

## The Army of the Frontier.

St. Louis, Mo., March 31, 1863.

Major Gen. Heron has been assigned to the command of the Army of the Frontier. He will leave for Southwest Missouri to-day, to assume command. It is understood that the divisions of this army will be speedily concentrated for an important expedition against the enemy. Gen. Vandever and Orme have been ordered to report to Gen. Heron.

Gen. Heron's district is extended south to the Arkansas river, and embraces the western tier of counties of Missouri and Arkansas.

The district of Southwest Missouri has been extended to the Arkansas river, Gen. Sumner is in command.

## News from San Francisco.

San Francisco, March 31, 1863.

There is nothing new regarding the threatened destruction by mosquitoes on the Mare Island Navy Yard and Daniels Arsenal. The public are informed of its continuance which was caused by the alarm manifested by the authorities, although all recommended their disposition to take every precaution to guard against possible danger. There are no mosquitoes in New York city, and it is not probable enough to encourage the most daring to take up arms against the authorities. With ordinary vigilance in guarding the forts, army and the public property, no such apprehensions are danger from the mosquitoes within the State.

The tugboat remains at San Francisco.

The ship Prince Eugene for Calcutta.

## NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, March 31, 1863.

## DAY OF NATIONAL FASTING, HYMNIZATION AND PRAYER.

The President, in compliance with the request of the Senate, has designated Thursday, the 29th of April, as a day of national humiliation, fasting and prayer, and concludes his proclamation as follows:—"Let us, then, turn humbly in the hope authorized by the Divine teachings, that the united cry of the nation will be heard on high and answered with blessings no less than the pardon of our national sins and the restoration of our now divided and suffering country to its former happy condition of unity and peace."

A great deal of speculation has been indulged upon the fact that the *Intelligencer* alone was permitted to publish to-day the President's proclamation of thanksgiving.

## THE ATTACK UPON CHARLESTON.

Nothing has been received at the Navy Department to justify the belief that an attack has been made upon the defenses of Charleston. The firing said to have been heard in Charleston harbor is supposed to have been only the firing of our gunboats on the rebel scum Georgea.

## THE REPORTS FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

No despatches have been received here from the Southwest of later date than those already published in New York and brought by the steamer *McClellan*.

## RECONNOISSANCES IN THE SHENANDOAH VALLEY.

Intelligence received to night from Winchester, Va., shows that by recent reconnaissance it has been ascertained that there is no rebel force within thirty-five miles of that place.

## DESTINATION AT THE SOUTH.

Information derived from rebel sources confirms all that has been hitherto stated of the destination of the rebels, and it is believed they will be reduced to desperation. Those who are most familiar with their intentions are confident they will attempt to concentrate their whole forces in Kentucky, in order to find subsistence for their army. The government has been advised in this respect, and will undoubtedly take measures to meet any emergency that may arise in this direction.

## THE GREAT UNION DEMONSTRATION.

The grand Union demonstration held here to-day, under the auspices of the municipal government, was a splendid success. Not only were the House of Representatives and the Senate Chamber crowded to overflowing with the fair and brave, but every corridor in the Capitol and the great rotunda, and every avenue leading to it, were thronged with people anxious to manifest their devotion to the Union, and their desire to sustain the administration in maintaining it. A half dozen very respectable meetings might have been organized outside of the chambers in which the speaking was going on. So much enthusiasm has never before been manifested in Washington, and no public meeting has called forth so decided an expression of popular opinion. The masses of the people of Washington, of all classes and conditions, have to-night manifested their loyalty to the government, and their anxiety for perpetuation of the Union, and constitution. The committees of the councils faithfully performed their duties. Nothing was left undone by them that could add to the success of the meeting. Their arrangements for the guests were complete, and to their management is due in a great measure the success of the demonstration.

## INTERCEPTED REBEL DOCUMENT—THE AFRICAN SLAVE TRADE.

An intercepted document, addressed by Judah P. Benjamin, the Confederate Secretary of State, to Hon. L. B. Q. Lamar, the Confederate Commissioner at St. Petersburg, has lately come into the possession of our government. It shows the prudent and significant reserve which the Confederate authorities prescribe to themselves in refusing to enter into any engagements with foreign nations not to revive the African slave trade.

Mr. Benjamin says Lamar is well aware how firmly fixed in their constitution is the policy of the confederacy against the opening of that trade; but we, he remarks, are informed that false and insidious suggestions have been made by the agents of the United States at European Courts of "their intention to change their constitution as soon as peace is restored, and of authorizing the importation of slaves from Africa." If, therefore, Mr. Lamar should find, in his intercourse with the Cabinet to which he is accredited, that any such impressions are entertained, he must use every proper effort to remove them; and if an attempt is made to introduce into any treaty which he may be charged with negotiating stipulations on the subject just mentioned, he will assume the position of the confederacy, and the confederacy will assume the position of the United States. In other words, no power is delegated to the Confederate government over this subject. In the course of his instructions Mr. Benjamin says:—"We trust that no unnecessary discussions on this matter will be introduced into your negotiations. If, unfortunately, this reliance should prove ill-founded, you will decline continuing negotiations on your side, and transfer them to us at home, where, in such event, they could be conducted with greater facility and advantage, under the direct supervision of the President."

## SEVERE FIGHT WITH INDIANS IN WASHINGTON TERRITORY.—THRILLING SLAUGHTER OF SAVAGES.

Official information has been received of Col. Conner's severe battle and splendid victory on Bear River, Wash. Territory. After a forced march of one hundred and forty miles, and with winter and spring deep snows, in which seventy-six of his men were disabled by frost, he and his gallant band of only two hundred picked three hundred Indian warriors in their stronghold, and after a hard fought battle of four hours destroyed the entire band, leaving two hundred and twenty-four dead upon the field. Our loss was fourteen killed and forty-nine wounded. These Indians had murdered several miners during the winter, and were a part of the same band who had been menacing emigrants on the overland mail route for the last fifteen years, and the principal actors and leaders in the horrid crimes of the past summer. During Colonel Conner's march no assistance was rendered by the Normans, who seemed indisposed, he says, to divulge any information regarding the Indians, and charged enormous prices for every article furnished his command.

## DECISION OF THE TAX COMMISSIONER.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has made the following decision:—

Warrants of *Attorney* accompanying mortgage checks drawn against State funds in bank are exempt from stamp duty. Pawnbrokers' checks are liable, as receipts, to a stamp duty of five cents. Whenever the receipt of an insurance agent or broker, as a condition of services performed for, or on account of the company or companies he represents, amounts to the sum of \$500 in any one year, he is liable to an assessment for a license under the amended excise law.

## RELIEF FOR THE POOR OF ENGLAND.—ADDRESS OF THE WORKINGMEN OF LEEDS TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA.

The government has received an official copy of the memorial of the Leeds Workingmen's Institute to the people of America. It is as follows:—

The members of the Leeds Workingmen's Institute have heard with a pleasure which cannot readily be described, of the contribution lately made by the people of America towards the relief of their distressed fellow laborers in Lancashire.

This act of sympathy, so spontaneous and so generous, has excited throughout the country the warmest feelings of gratitude.

The thanks of the nation at large will be conveyed to the people of America through other and more appropriate channels, but the workingmen of Leeds, such help as has been afforded might be more gratefully received by the workingmen of America, than by the people of England.

On behalf of the Leeds Workingmen's Institute, DARTON LUTTON, President.

LEEDS, Feb. 12, 1863.

## EXHIBITION OF GREEK FIRE.

Mr. G. Rugh Dear, one of the patentees of the "Improved and solidified Greek fire," gave a private exhibition last night, in the presence of the President of the United States, General Mitchell and Assistant Secretary of the Navy Fox, and others. The rebels will soon have an opportunity of judging of its efficiency.

## THURSDAY RAILROAD.—All the people along the line of Broadway—everybody opposed to a railroad on that street—are requested, to meet this evening at Niblo's Concert Saloon.

## THE REBEL PRIVATEERS.

Two More Vessels Burned by the Alabama.

The Ship Golden Eagle, of New York, and Bark Olive Jane, of Boston, Destroyed.

## TWO MORE PRIVATEERS FOR THE ARSELA.

THE SUMTER READY FOR SEA.

Two Petty Officers Discharged from the Alabama.

## REBEL VESSELS IN THE WEST INDIES.

By the arrival of the Hansa last evening we have the reports of the continued depredations of the pirate Alabama. A splendid ship, belonging to this port and a new bark belonging to Boston have been destroyed.

The Sumter will be at sea in a few days sailing the Alabama and Florida, while the *Intelligencer* (new) will be ready in a few weeks.The *Cliff Hawk*, arrived at Havre March 14, reports having been spoken on February 23, in latitude 31 north, longitude 45 west, by the Alabama, which put on board two Frenchmen belonging to the bark *Olive Jane*, Capt. Kalk, from Bordeaux, January 29, for New York, which had been burned by the Alabama on the 21st of February.